ABSTRACT

A method is disclosed for removing ink-accepting areas from a printing master by laser ablation, characterized in that the printing master comprises a substrate which comprises a support and a base layer, wherein the base layer contains a crosslinked hydrophilic binder and a metal oxide. The base layer prevents deterioration of the quality of the substrate due to the laser ablation. In a preferred embodiment, the same substrate is used in a number of consecutive printing cycles of on-press coating, on-press exposure, printing and cleaning.